Synopsis of Ph.D Thesis entitled

TREATMENT OF CROSS-RACIAL RELATIONS AND APARTHEID IN GORDIMER'S SELECT NOVELS

Submited to

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FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) IN ENGLISH UNDER THE FACULTY OF ARTS (HUMANITIES)

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MARCH- 2022

Treatment Of Cross-Racial Relations And Apartheid In Gordimer's Select Novels

Introduction:

The present research work entitled, Treatment Of Cross-Racial Relations and Apartheid in Gordimer's Select Novels is an attempt to study the concept racism in the select novels and compare how it is cross cultural in the select novels. For the purpose of turns quickly the issues like discrimination, slavery and inequality from the novels of Nadine Godimar'sOccaisonFor Loving, A Sport of nature, Burgers Daughter, July's People My Sons Story and A World of Strangers have been selected. Cross racial relations defined in Wikipedia, It means an unimportant or powerless position of society.

In different cultures, the novels have shown the Cross racial relations and injustice done to the minorities in their writings, this is the only purpose behind selection the writer of different culture. In Nadine Gordimer's' In **Occasion for Loving (1963)**, explores the moral dilemmas confronting the white South African liberal.

The novel deals with the destruction of the Black, Gideon Shibalo, by a white English girl who enjoys the adventure of an affair with Africa, personified in Gideon and then returns to her marriage and Europe, leaving his life of frustration and humiliation, unchanged.**A Sport Of Nature(1980)**, represents Gordimer's belief that South Africa's existing social order would be destroyed in course of time.The story of white south African courageous woman Hillela upholds the reason for her killed dark spouse and turns in to the primary leader of the recently made dark African country. **My Sons Story(1990)**, graphs the political change of the coloured man Sonny and the repercussions on himself and the family.A good teacher, who is drawn in to political activity away from his family, he lost the job and became a popular figure in the struggle against apartheid. **A World Of Strangers(1958)**, was forbidden by the South African government as it exposed the cruelty and insanity of apartheid and the dangers of daily life for the blacks. The novel displays the main productive however unnerving experiences between the whites and blacks in the potent days of Sophia Town. **Burgers Daughter(1979)**, portrayed as a 'coded tribute' as she imparted to Afrikaner legal counselor Bram Fischer. It occurred at the season of when he guarded with Nelson Mandela and other hostile to politically sanctioned racial segregation activists.

July's People(1981), envisions the unavoidable crumple of white South Africa and the rise of new political and social substances that would required the white South

African's to mold the shapes of the new identity. The novel traces the end of the white regime and the impact of the sudden reversal of power relationships on the both the Whites and the Blacks.

Review of Literature:

The review of literature involves detail literary study in the field of relevant subject. It includes study of African literature. The proposed research deals with African cross racial relations of the society's fiction in the cross racial manner. A WorldOf Strangers is one of her early novels which explores racial conflict as its central theme, (African Literature today-K. Nirupa Rani).Godimer Involve to fulfil this role in novel My Son's Story, it tells the story of the effect of apartheid on one black family in south Africa,(indian Streams Research Journal : Arfan Hussain-2013). In her development of characters later in her career, Gordimer takes on post-apartheid issues and looks beyond spaces in farm velds to urban and desert environments outside of South Africa. It can be discussed thoroughly in proposed study. I have search review of literature found comparative study African Encounter In Nadine Gordimer and Doris Lessing An Insider Outsider Perspective by Dr. Madhumathy. R and The Novels Of Nadine Gordimer The Quesition Of Race by Dr. Gowrishakar Uma.

In this review the researcher discussed and mentioned six novels of Nadine Gordimer's Occision for Loving, a sport of Nature, My son's story, A world of Strangers, July's People, Burger's Daughter.

Need of Research:

After the review of literature, it is clear that most of the research scholars studied the selected novelist by applying various approaches. Nadine Gordimer's selected novels are hardly received specific attention by the scholars that is why present study seems very significant to know the greatness of the selected novelist and how the writer portrayed the characters of the victims of racism through her novels and the struggle of the characters to overcome from the lower position. Still we see caste and class discrimination, inequality ,slaveryetc provinces in different kinds of regions or countries, why does it still exist ? What needs to be done to bring it end ?

Hypothesis:

Following are the hypotheses for the present research study, It is hypothesized that caste discrimination and inequality are universal against marginalize section of the society.

1) Racism, casteism and classism are biggest issue in the society.

2) Caste and class discrimination, injustice and violence are strongly affects on the marginalized person's personal and their social development.

3) Caste and class discrimination, racism and inequility are strongly criticized in the select fiction.

4) Minorities are always victim of majorities domination.

5) Cross racial manner is a unique feature of the society.

Aims / Objectives of the study:

The research is an attempt to achieve following Aims/Objectives:

1) To study the racial and apartheid aspects in the selected novels of Nadine Gordimer.

2) To study cross racial relations and discrimination in the select novels of Gordimer.

3) To study socio-economic and political injustices against lower section of the society

4) To describe African cross culturalism section of the society's exploitation, oppression and their social status.

5) To describe racism of lower class people's struggle and their familial status.

6) To analyzescio-economic and political injustices against lower caste of the African society.

Research Methodology

The present research work is an analytical and based on analytical and comparative research methodology. As and when it is required, the descriptive method is also used to point impact of marginality on the characters in the select novels of Nadine Gordimer. The texts of the selected novels, the reference books, journals, magazines, newspapers, recorded interviews (videos), useful data from various sources and web material have been used. The MLA Handbook (9th Edition) has been followed for references.

Data Collection:

The data required for the present research work will be carried out by two ways:

1) Primary Data: The primary data will be the original texts of Nadine Gordimer.

2) **Secondary Data:** The secondary data will be collected from research articles, previous research and research journals and interviews of Nadine Gordimer with eminent scholars and Web sources.

Place of Work and Facilities Available

The present research work will be carried out at School of Language, Literature and Cultural Studies SRTM University, Nanded, which has a well-equipped library with a number of books and novels. Internet facility also provided in the library.

Scope and Limitation:

The present study is limited to study and analyse discrimination in the select novels on comparative line. The scope of present proposed research study is needed to understand and examine specially cross racial relations, caste discrimination, racism and inequality in the select African – American manner. The cross racial relations' characters in selected fiction are faced sexual harassment, physical violence, unequal treatment and discrimination. The select fiction guides us to understand the living status of minorities, marginalized people and their problems.

Importance of Research Study:

The present study helps to broaden the horizons of literature. The cross racial relations literature gives the readers an opportunity to develop international new broad outlook. It helps to discover the universal qualities of human being. Nadine Gordimer is a African writer, her writing is so great that the researcher think he needs to be internationally recognized so that his writing can spread all over around the world.

Chapter Scheme:

Chapter-I: Introduction

Chapter-II: Nadine Gordimer: A Biographical sketch

Chapter-III: Critical analysis of her select novels

Chapter- IV: Treatment Of Cross-Racial Relations and Apartheid in Gordimer's Select Novels

Chapter- V: Conclusion

Chapter-wise Summary:

Chapter-I : Introduction

The South African literary scenario is characterized by socio-cultural diversity and linguistic plurality. It has a long and respectable history and tradition with an extensive corpus of anonymous literature in different forms like mythological stories, legends riddles, folk tales and songs. It has been enriched with the traditional oral and written literatures in Afro-Asiatic and African languages together with works written by Africans in European languages like French, Portuguese, and English. Like India, Africa is also a confluence of varying streams of cultures, religions, ideologies, languages and literatures. Africa's glorious cultural heritage has been recorded in the various forms of oral literature like folktales, fables, fantasies riddles, myths, legends, songs and proverbs. The significant role of griots in the pluralistic society of Africa with several languages, races and cultures, the different components of the oral tradition, and the major trends in the development of African literature have been recorded later in the written literatures

Ivan Vladislavic is yet another writer distinguished by his conventions of fiction as much as they speak about contemporary realties in South Africa today. Mark Behr has been one of the most compelling and controversial additions to the South African literary canon. His novels like The Smell of Apples (1997), Embrace (2000) are notable works. Many South African writers are still dealing with the legacy of apartheid and the struggle against it as South Africa finds a new national and hybrid identity. For example, Zoe Wicomb's novel David's Story (2001) examines the past and present of an anti-apartheid activist, as does Achmat Dangor's Bitter Fruit (2001).Mike Nicol's first novel The Powers That Be (1989) brought a magic-realist sensibility to South African literature, and his latest, The Ibis Tapestry (1998) is a post-modern take on the secrets of South Africa's apartheid abuses.

Chapter-II: Nadine Gordimer: A Biographical sketch

Nadine Gordimer (1923–2014) is the first South African and the seventh woman to be awarded the Noble Prize for Literature in 1991. Her novels enjoy unrivalled popularity

as the timeless masterpieces owing to her depiction of apartheid ethos. The universal implications of apartheid have a very intimate connection with India's social, cultural, economic and political conditions. She addressed the moral and political dilemmas of her own and her children's generations in a society finally released from the terrible grip of an extraordinary form of control and exploitation. She did not share the profound disillusion of writers such as JM Coetzee, while admitting the problems brought by the new dispensation in her country. She examined the inevitable compromises and betrayals within individual lives of privilege, struggle and freedom.

Her literary journey started in 1953 with the publication of a short story entitled "The Quest for Seen Gold" which appeared in the Children's Sunday Express in 1937 and followed by several acknowledged masterpieces like Face to Face (1949), The Lying Days (1953), Occasion for Loving(1963), A Guest of Honour (1971), The Conservationist (1974),Burger's Daughter (1979), and July's People (1981),My Son's Story (1990), The House Gun (1998),Get a Life(2005) and her final novel, No Time like the Present (2012).Being a prolific writer, she has produced dozens of novels, essays and plays, many of which were critical of the racist apartheid system in South Africa.

Chapter-III: Critical analysis of her select novels

A World of Strangers (1958)

Her second novel **A World of Strangers (1958)** was banned by the South African government as it exposed the cruelty and idiocy of apartheid and the dangers of daily life for the blacks. The novel exhibits the first fruitful but frightening encounters between the Whites and the Blacks in the heady days of Sophia town. As an early demonstration of an individual living in South Africa who is predetermined by the constraints of apartheid, the novel also examines man's profound need to give meaning to life, the best ways to realize the self within the limitations imposed by South Africa, the world of strangers par excellence. Set in Johannesburg, it relates to Toby's attempt to unite his white intellectual companions with several black Africans whom he has recently befriended.

Occasion for Loving (1963)

In Occasion for Loving (1963)the novelist explores the moral dilemmas confronting the white South African liberal. In novel after novel, with a growing sense of concern, the devastating effects of apartheid on the Blacks as well as the Whites are probed. The novel deals with the destruction of the Black, Gideon Shibalo, by a white English girl who enjoys

the adventure of an affair with Africa, personified in Gideon and then returns to her marriage and Europe, leaving his life of frustration and humiliation, unchanged.

Burger's Daughter (1979)

This novel has been described by Gordimer as a 'coded homage' to the Afrikaner lawyer Bram Fischer, who defended Nelson Mandela and other anti-apartheid activists. It is narrated by the daughter of the central character, who faces the consequences of her parents' martyrdom for their political ideals. It is a self-study of Rosa; the story of a young, white, South African woman and her search for identity. It presents a penetrating portrait of a courageous woman, Rosa Burger, whose father's death in prison leaves her alone to explore the minutiae of what it actually means to be Burger's daughter.

A Sport of Nature (1980)

The novel represents Gordimer's belief that South Africa's existing social order would be destroyed in the course of time. The title implies a botanical phenomenon of a plant which suddenly deviates from its parent stock and the mutated offspring is personified by the heroine, Hillela. The White South African heroine, espouses the cause of her assassinated black husband, and becomes the first president of the newly created black African nation.

July's People (1981)

July's People (1981) visualizes the inevitable collapse of white South Africa and the emergence of new political and social realities that would require the white South Africans to fashion the contours of new identity. The novel traces the end of the white regime and the impact of the sudden reversal of power relationships on both the Whites and the Blacks. Set in the future, the narrative takes place in the aftermath of a revolution and centers on the trauma experienced by a white family who are forced to depend on the charity of a former black servant. Through the reversal of roles, the novelist exposes the deep rooted feelings of prejudice and racial supremacy lying dormant in the so-called liberal minds.

My Son's Story (1990)

The novel charts the political transformation of the coloured man Sonny and the repercussions on himself and on the family. Set in a time, when the legal system of apartheid is crumbling and integration taking place, it explores the permutations of loyalty

and betrayal, of dependence and autonomy, of kinship and community. Sonny, a loving husband, father and an intrepid militant for black freedom and political rights believes in principles and sticks to his ideals. A good teacher, who is drawn into political activity away from his family, he lost the job and becomes a popular figure in the struggle against apartheid. Within the narrative, the individual, the family and the community come together to be forced into revolutionary process to dismantle apartheid, thus causing timeless struggle for liberty.

Chapter- IV Treatment Of Cross-Racial Relations and Apartheid in Gordimer's Select Novels

The complex relations presented in her works makes the black and the white South Africans visible to each other. Her characters are a microcosm of South African society mirroring its typical milieu and politics. She seems to have a rather ambivalent view about the socio-cultural predicaments caused by racial discrimination and oppression in the name apartheid policy. She provides a fascinating glimpse into everyday life in her country during those decades of apartheid and interregnum period with a striking emphasis on its moral and psychological effects. Her benevolent treatment of the racial prejudices and segregation between the blacks and the whites depicted through their interdependence and love-hate relationship points to her liberal and humanist agenda. She succeeds in achieving a balance between her western lineage and African roots through sustained efforts to indigenize and make it suitable to the South African context. She, thus, gained a perfect reconciliation and synthesis between the conflicting demands her ethics and aesthetics in her country's violent socio-political context.

The apartheid system and its tensions and moral failures continued to be explored in Afrikaans literature after the 1960s. Derived from Dutch word, apartheid translates as 'apartness' which literary means 'apart-hood' or the action or state of setting someone or something apart from others'. Apartheid refers to similar policies and practices of racial segregation and discrimination prevalent throughout in African states intending to oppress one racial group by the other.

Chapter- V: Conclusion

Gordimer's novels embody a rather ambivalent view about the racial conflict especially the policy called apartheid and its consequences. Her treatment of the racial prejudices and segregation between the blacks and the whites demonstrates a very

benevolent and humanistic approach through their interdependence and love-hate relationship. Being a true witness to South Africa's tragedies, she dared to voice the excruciating suffering and exploitation of the blacks in her country.

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